STIGMATA

Number 16

FIRST QUARTER – 1982

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THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

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CHRONOLOGY - 1981

And here we go again. As we said in last year's first issue, the mutilations continue to be no flash-in-the-pan phenomenon. The mutes - and the mutilators - have staying power. And what do we have? Understanding? Revelation? Answers? No, what we have is a lot of historical perspective, for whatever that's worth. Plus, we get more of it with each passing year.

All that aside, it would appear on the surface that the number of mutilations did fall off a bit last year. We have heard of perhaps 50-or-so cases last year (at this writing) whereas we have knowledge of perhaps twice that many in 1980. For a while in 1981, it actually seemed even quieter than that, due to the sporadic and yet subtly insistent distribution of the phenomenon. Only when the year's reports are finally brought together en masse does one realize that classic mutilations are still a consistent (though perhaps more isolated) occurrence. We must always qualify our assessment of the number of reports because of the significant number of cases (we believe) that go unreported. Often, as we have talked with victim ranchers recently, we have learned of other mutilations occurring in those areas, with the owners not reporting the acts either out of frustration with law enforcement or a simple desire to avoid publicity and furor.

So "Whatever happened to cattle mutilations?" is a question without relevance to the space-time continuum of the moment or to today's consensus reality (even though that "consensus" may not be altogether paying attention).

Some people remain, shall we say, unconvinced. They may never get the hang of it. Maybe that's the way it's supposed to be, or maybe that's even the way it should be. Those who would scoff and detract from the reality of "classic mutilations" - whose click-words and catch phrases include "natural causes", "scavengers", "predators", "misinterpretation", "delusion", "mass hysteria" or even "lone nut" - these individuals are not necessarily acting out their roles in concert in some insidious conspiracy. To such people, the classic mutilations simply can not be, and there has to be - yes ("Altogether now, class"), a logical explanation. Most such people have never seen a mutilated carcass. Even those who have seen an occasional mutilation refuse (however consciously or subconsciously) to allow it to register on them that they have seen anything other than some misinterpreted mundane event.

This may be due to a sort of psychic defense mechanism, because the "acceptance" of the reality of mutilations can be disturbing to some, even traumatic - over the years we've heard of many a sleepless night. So it may be that some people are in fact "not ready" for the inclusion of unexplained, unstoppable, uncontrollable livestock mutilations in their world-view. Then there are those of us for whom the data proclaims the reality of the classic mutilations, although we are not forgetting that misinterpretations, predation, death-by-natural-causes, etc. do occur in the course of Life-On-Earth. But there often seems to be a yawning conceptual gap (across which one would have difficulty tossing a cow chip) between the mutes-are-real folks and the ain't-no-way's. If everyone had a clas-

sically-mutilated carcass or perhaps even a series of them deposited on their front lawn or back porch or garden or mailbox or bucket seat, we would have quite a different situation. One suspects, though, that it will never be that way, Whatever is happening, it seems to speak to relatively few of us (at least up-front; not knowing what effect this is having on the deepest levels of the collective unconscious). But when it speaks, we listen. We don't necessarily understand - yet. But we're listening. And we're trying.

But, on to the summary of last year's events. The following is a roughly chronological summary of representative classic mutilation-events reported in the United States and Canada in 1981. As in our 1980 chronology, each case summary will include the following elements, generally in this order:

(1) Under groupings by month, the date of the mutilation-death if known, or the date of discovery; if the approximate time since death is known or estimated, it will be included; (2) Day of the week; (3) Location by state, then county (provinces for Canada), then more specific location; (4) Name of victimized rancher, farmer or animal owner, if known; (5) Description of victim animal; (6) Body parts missing; external and internal damage; (7) Any additional details which are especially pertinent or revealing; (8) The informational source(s), except where confidentiality is requested.

We are also including a map indicating the areas in the United States and southern Canada in which mutilations occurred in 1981.

Some of these reports will be worthy of further delineation and elaboration. These more detailed accounts will appear in this edition (Canadian reports) and in subsequent editions of STIGMATA.

JANUARY 1981

3rd, Saturday
COLORADO - El Paso County - near Ramah - 3-year-old Hereford heifer - missing hide and flesh on right side of jaw; also, right eye and rectal area removed - a blue nylon rope was tied around the right rear leg - throat had been cut - investigating deputy theorized that someone intended to butcher the cow, then they were scared off and coyotes removed the parts - photos taken by sheriff's photographer - RANCHLAND FARM NEWS (Simla, CO), 1-8-81; report, El Paso County Sheriff's Office; Linda Howe, KMGH-TV, Denver.

14th, Wednesday
ARKANSAS - Washington County - near Prairie Grove - Thomas - 600-lb. 18-month-old red white-face calf - tail and rectum missing - hair, apparently from tail, arranged in neat cone-shaped pile; pile of manure nearby - calf missing on 14th, found on 16th, 100 yds. from house - no bleeding - "searing" on rectal incision - Mrs. Betty Thomas; Dr. Nancy H. Owen, then of the University of Arkansas (for allowing Project Stigma investigators Tom Adams and Gary Massey to accompany her for interview).

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FEBRUARY 1981

1st, Sunday (approximate date)
WASHINGTON - Pierce County - Bald Hills area - unidentified ranch - 9-year-old registered Hereford bull - value $2,000 - missing part of lower jaw, left ear and testicles - animal was last seen Jan. 30th and found Feb. 2nd - DAILY OLYMPIAN (Olympia, WA), 2-3-81; Julius Scammon Rodman via Kalani Hanohano.

8th, Sunday
CALIFORNIA - city & county of San Francisco - a human decapitation - a man's body was found in Golden Gate Park, in a sleeping bag near Alvord Lake - the head (which was not found despite an extensive search) was removed "with precision" - authorities suspected a "ritualistic murder" - PRESS-DEMOCRAT (Santa Rosa, CA), 2-9-81; Ted Schultz.

15th, Sunday
TENNESSEE - Meigs County - Fairview - Jessie Templeton - 700-800-lb. Black Angus female - eyes "gouged out" - teats cut out - genitals cut out leaving "just a big circle where they should have been" - vehicle tracks and footprints in the pasture led some observers to suspect cultists - another of Templeton's cows was missing; it had not been found as of late February - MEIGS COUNTY STATESMAN (Decatur, Tenn.), 2-25-81 (Darryl Stewart, editor); CHATTANOOGA (TN) TIMES, 2-28-81; TUSCALOOSA (AL) NEWS, 2-28-81, credit: Robert E. Morgan.

(late February or early March)
WASHINGTON - Pierce County - 4 miles south of Bald Hills area - owner unidentified - bull - mutilation described as "classic" - BIGFOOT CO-OP(Whittier, CA), June 1981 (letter); credit: Constance Cameron.

(sometime during first quarter 1981)
WASHINGTON - Pierce County - location and owner unknown - a lady reports that she fed her two prize horses around 6:00 PM one day, then found them on the ground, mutilated (no specifics), around 9:00 PM the same evening - she found her guard dogs (which had not made a sound) cowering near the horses - (many mutilations have been reported in Pierce County over the past several years, with most of the victim animals being horses - BIGFOOT CO-OP, June 1981 (letter); credit: Constance Cameron.

APRIL 1981

11th, Saturday
OKLAHOMA - Sequoyah County - south of Muldrow - O'Bryan - female bovine - genitals removed, blood apparently drained - cow pregnant, no trace of fetus - sheriff says cow was shot 4 or 5 times with .357 revolver or high-powered rifle - no tracks, carcass undisturbed by predators --- SATURDAY OKLAHOMAN (Okla. City), 4-18-81.

APRIL 1981 (cont.)

13th, Monday
OKLAHOMA - Sequoyah County - south of Muldrow - O'Bryan ranch - bull - "partially castrated" and no evidence of bleeding; blood thought drained - no tracks, no disturbance by dogs or predators - sheriff says shot nine times (see April 11) - SATURDAY OKLAHOMAN (Okla. City), 4-18-81.

15th, Wednesday
COLORADO - Larimer County - near Masonville - Klausen - 4-month-old heifer calf - right eye missing - rectum missing, leaving large circular hole - calf last seen on April 13th - tongue also missing - credit: Linda M. Howe; KMGH-TV;Denver,CO.

15th-18th, Wed.-Sat. (approximate)
SOUTH DAKOTA - Shannon County (Pine Ridge Reservation) - Kyle area - Montieleaux - white-face female bovine - udder cut out - rectum "reamed out" - carcass was found on April 22nd and was estimated to have died that previous week - give or take a day or two, a mutilation (bovine) has occurred on the reservation on about the same date in 1979, 1980 and 1981 - also, UFO sightings have been reported on the reservation during these periods - credit: David Brewer, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

MAY 1981

16th, Saturday
CANADA - BRITISH COLUMBIA - southeastern B.C., 5 miles from Fernie - Lloyd Phillips, White Spruce Ranch - 3-year-old female Hereford - half of tongue missing, anus removed - portion of right side of face cut away - hide and hair in half-moon segment removed above right eye - hole in upper right chest cavity - lateral cut on neck - there was a considerable difference of opinion between the RCMP (police) and rancher/newspaper editor Phillips - - - EDMONTON (Alberta) JOURNAL, 5-21-81; FERNIE (B.C.) FREE PRESS; Lloyd Phillips, W.K. Allan, Tim Tokaryk, Jim Duncan.

(May - date unknown)
NEBRASKA - Washington County - near Herman - George Tyson - 6-year-old female Hereford - udder and teats missing; appeared removed by sharp instrument, leaving a "perfect square cut" 8" x 8" - no evidence of bleeding --- Carol Werkmeister, Study on Animal Mutilations; Madison, Nebraska.

(spring and early summer)
IOWA - newspaper account reports that unspecified number of cattle and sheep mutilations occurred in eastern Iowa and goes on to state that officials blame "critters" (rodents, crows, etc) --- CEDAR RAPIDS GAZETTE (Iowa), 7-26-81; OTTUMWA COURIER (Iowa), 7-28-81; William L. Moore; Mrs. Robert Snodgrass.

MAY 1981 (cont.)

30th, Saturday
OREGON - Crook County - 25 miles from Paulina - Earl McConnell, Grindstone Ranch - 600-lb. female Hereford, lying in shallow creek - missing was the udder, the genitals, rectum and a patch from the right hip where the brand was inscribed - deputies described wounds as having been made with a knife, though crudely - state police analysis found traces of a "tranquillizing drug" (otherwise unidentified) in carcass --- CENTRAL OREGONIAN (Prineville, Oregon), 6-2-81; UFO Newsclipping Service (Route 1, Box 220; Plumerville, Arkansas 72127).

JUNE 1981

(Three-week period in late May and June)
CANADA - ALBERTA - Vilna area, northeast of Edmonton - during this period, 4 apparently-mutilated cows were found on 4 separate ranches (details elsewhere in this issue) - NATIONAL EXAMINER, 9-1-81; Aerial Phenomenon Clipping & Information Service; Cleveland, Ohio - also Don Hill, Steve Weatherby, CFRN radio; Edmonton, Alberta.

10th or 11th, Wed.-Thursday (approximate)
NEW MEXICO - Rio Arriba County - near Dulce - Manuel Gomez - Rancher Gomez had six cattle mutilated previously; on this occasion, one horse and one cow were victimized - the 2-year-old cow was missing its rectum and genitals - the 14-month-old horse was also missing its rectum and genitals, plus an eye and part of the face; and the neck and jawbone were broken - State Policeman Gabe Valdez reported "marks and broken skin" where it appeared clamps of some sort had been applied to the horse, plus "spike marks in the ground where the grass had been uprooted near the scene" - strange airborne lights (not uncommon in that area) had been seen around that time - in at least 3 Junes since (and including) 1976, Gomez has suffered a mutilation --- RIO GRANDE SUN (Espanola, New Mexico), 6-25-81.

18th or 19th, Thursday or Friday (approximate)
OREGON - Clackamas County - Eagle Creek, north of Estacada - Ward - female bovine - missing were the eyes, heart, udder and vagina - investigating deputies seemed to suspect cultist involvement - similar mutilations had occurred in the area 3 years previously --- CLACKAMAS COUNTY NEWS (Estacada, Oregon), 7-22-81; P. Guttilla via UFO Newsclipping Service; Plumerville, Arkansas.

(mid-to-late June)
OREGON - Deschutes County - near Sisters - genitals removed from bovine - credit: Terri Lowry, Grindstone Ranch; Crook County, Oregon.

(mid-June)
COLORADO - Jefferson County - Lakewood - Bylon - in a series of night-caller attacks, imbued with a particularly Fortean aura, seven rabbits were seemingly decapitated and

JUNE 1981 (cont.)

drained of blood over several nights - left behind were the headless carcasses and, oddly enough, the ears - the culprit(s) were never seen or heard despite the efforts of homeowner Bylon to catch the intruder(s) - a similar rabbit-decapitation was reported in Fort Collins, Colorado (Larimer County) around Easter - - - ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS (Denver, CO), 6-28-81; Linda Moulton Howe, KMGH-TV, Denver.

22nd, Monday
NEBRASKA - Washington County - east of Arlington - Bob & Denny Wilkins - 5-month-old shorthorn bull calf - large area of lower abdomen cut away - heart, genitals missing - intestines discovered in neat pile about 25 feet away (in a few cases over the past several years, intestines or other internal parts have been left in a similar pile or in a neat row near the carcass) - the back legs of the carcass had been forcibly spread apart until the legs popped out of the sockets - little blood in evidence --- ARLINGTON (NB) CITIZEN, 6-25-81; Carol Werkmeister, Study on Animal Mutilations.

JULY 1981

3rd, Friday
CANADA - BRITISH COLUMBIA - near Armstrong, north of Vernon - Ternier, TLR Ranch - 3-year-old purebred female Hereford - missing right upper lip and part of nostril, all of udder and external genitalia; all excised by "sharp instrument" - as in case near Fernie, B.C. (see May) there was a wide difference of opinion between the RCMP and other observers, veterinarian, etc. (details elsewhere in this issue) --- COUNTRY LIFE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (White Rock, B.C.), September 1981; Mrs. Jeanette McKay; W.K. Allan; Dr. R.C. Maidment; Robert Ternier.

18th, Saturday
OREGON - Lane County - Creswell, south of Eugene - Sprinkle - 3 rabbits, 2 female and one male - mutilated; one skinned but alive when found, and later died - beyond that, no specifics re: mutilations --- EUGENE (Ore.) REGISTER-GUARD, 7-21-81; Lucius Farish, UFO Newsclipping Service.

AUGUST 1981

20th, Thursday
NEW MEXICO - Rio Arriba County - near Tierra Amarilla - Victor Salazar - female bovine - tongue missing - rectal area removed - no footprints except those of calf which came to stand by its mother's carcass - ALBUQUERQUE (NM) JOURNAL, 9-2-81; F. Hudson via UFO Newsclipping Service.

22nd, Saturday
NEW MEXICO - Rio Arriba Co. - near Tierra Amarilla - Victor Salazar - another cow dis-

AUGUST 1981 (cont.)

covered with its calf standing nearby - half of udder missing - "anal area was cut" - the dewclaws on a leg were neatly snipped off - Salazar also suffered mutilations around this time in 1979 and 1980 --- ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL, 9-2-81; F. Hudson via UFO Newsclipping Service.

23rd, Sunday
IOWA - Howard County - near Cresco - Merlin Christiansen - 3 cows, shot to death - 1 wounded, had to be destroyed - one cow had a loin carved out - though reported as "mutilations", the motive is suspected to be mere butchering for meat --- WATERLOO (Iowa) COURIER, 8-25-81.

26th, Wednesday
COLORADO - Huerfano County - 7 miles west of Walsenburg - Gomez - 3-year-old heifer - tongue removed - rectum removed as if a "stovepipe" had been shoved up the rear of the animal and the "core" removed - at least some additional damage on this carcass is thought to have been caused by predators --- Sheriff Harold Martinez via Linda M. Howe, KMGH-TV, Denver.

29th, Saturday
COLORADO - Huerfano County - 4 miles east of Walsenburg - Corsentino Dairy Farm - 2-year-old Holstein heifer - left side of face cut away - left eye and tip of left ear gone - teat possibly removed - vaginal area cut out in "stovepipe" fashion (see case above) - rectal area intact - possible helicopter heard overhead the morning of the 29th - sheriff reports the hide "sounded like a drum" when hit, and that the hide on the upper half (lengthwise) of the carcass was stiff and brittle like a dry Chamois (shammy) cloth while the hide on the bottom half was still soft - vet thought carcass struck by lightning (cause of death) but confirms that some cutting was done, also --- DENVER POST, 9-4-81; Sheriff Harold Martinez via Linda M. Howe, KMGH-TV, Denver.

SEPTEMBER 1981

11th, Friday
NEW MEXICO - Rio Arriba County - east of Tierra Amarilla - Casale Ranch, 5 miles from Salazar (see August) - 5-year-old Charolais - missing tongue, udder, anus - bruises all over back of carcass --- State Policeman Gabe Valdez; Dulce, New Mexico.

12th, Saturday
WASHINGTON - King County - near Auburn - Edna Mock - steer - missing a front leg, shoulder, lips, nose, ear, larynx, tail and genitals - no blood in evidence - found 300 feet from house - a King County Animal Control spokesman said the wounds were too neat to have been caused by predators --- Mrs. Linda Williford.

14th, Monday
CANADA - ALBERTA - Falun, between Edmonton and Red Deer - John Cummings - bull calf - penis, testicles, anus and half of tail "cut out with surgical precision" - found ¼-mile north of house - no tracks - herd was checked on 9-11-81 and all was well; there was nothing on the site where the calf was found on the 14th - a human corpse (killed by shotgun) found on adjoining ranch 9-14-81; no connection suspected - Mrs. Cummings told Project Stigma: "The police came and looked - and immediately they said it was predators. We disagreed with that, very much so. Our neighbors looked at (the calf). Also my father-in-law, who's had a lot to do with animals all his life. And our neighbors are older people that have lived with animals all their lives, and they had never seen an animal like that". --- EDMONTON SUN, 9-17-81; Tim Tokaryk.

23rd, Wednesday
SOUTH DAKOTA - Mellette County - near Norris - Graff - 2-year-old Hereford steer - genitals missing, leaving perfectly circular 6"-diameter patch - both ears missing - left eye missing; right eye popped out of socket but was still laying at site - part of tail was missing; hair from end of tail left in a circle around the carcass - there was a hole in the left ribcage from which the heart was thought to have been taken - no blood in evidence; no evidence of bleeding - rectum was "cored out", leaving "a clean hole" as though made with an "ice cream scoop" - one-half of one of the missing ears was found under the carcass - steer was not found on Graff's property where it should have been but on neighbor's place; the neighbor's dogs had "raised hell" the night of the 22nd - 3 or 4 other mutes have occurred in this area in the last two years, all found on their backs with their legs straight up into the air - there had been reports of UFOs and "weird lights" from the Norris and Kadoka areas - Mrs. Graff, victim's wife, 5 nights before steer was found, driving home from Gordon, Nebraska, saw farmhouse that appeared to be on fire. As she approached to within a half-mile, the "fire" rose into the sky and flew off to the west like a "burning full moon" until it vanished in a "bright flash". Driving the very few remaining miles home, she found her 4 dogs whimpering & whining - a laboratory analysis indicated that the hair from the tail may have been severed by something hot --- David Brewer, B.I.A.; Linda Howe, KMGH-TV, Denver.

28th, Monday
MINNESOTA - Grant County - Macsville Township, east of Herman - Werk farm - 500-lb. 7-month-old registered Hereford bull calf - missing genitals, right ear and eye, part of left ear and a 2" x 3" piece of hide from the right front shoulder - a hole in the left side appeared as though made by a tranquillizer dart or awl - little blood in evidence - animal valued at $1,000 - university lab analysis of samples found no drugs, no disease - found 9-29-81, died during the previous night --- HERMAN (Minn.) REVIEW, 10-8-81; William L. Moore (Moore, co-author with Charles Berlitz of THE PHILADELPHIA EXPERIMENT and THE ROSWELL INCIDENT and currently an Arizona resident, was formerly a schoolteacher in the Herman area. He knows the Werks, vouches for their good reputation, and in fact taught some of the Werk children in school.)

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SEPTEMBER 1981 (cont.)

28th, Monday
CANADA - ALBERTA - Balzac, just north of Calgary - Stan Jones - 600-kg., purebred Hereford bull, 1½ years old - circular hole, 30 centimeters in diameter, in abdomen where testicles had been removed; sharp-edged wound, some dripping blood - puncture mark in neck - 3 triangular patches were worn down into the nearby grass - missing also were the tongue, nose and some "entrails" - a helicopter had been heard the night before, and a helicopter was seen nearby as the Jones family examined the bull at the site ---CALGARY (Alta.) HERALD, 9-29-81; EDMONTON SUN, 9-30-81; Tim Tokaryk, Mr. X.

OCTOBER 1981

1st, Thursday
NEW HAMPSHIRE - Carroll County - Center Tuftonboro - Charles Whitten - 7-year-old female Hereford - half of face cut away - eye, ear and half of nose missing - half of tongue removed - jugular vein severed - no evidence of bleeding - death occurred that previous night, as there had been nothing at that site the previous day - however, the carcass was badly bloated, unexpectedly so considering the cool weather - this is only the second known "classic" mutilation case in New Hampshire, following a 1978 incident near the Vermont border --- NEW HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY NEWS (Manchester, NH), 10-4-81; PORTSMOUTH (NH) HERALD, 10-12-81; Loren Coleman, Betty Hill, Chas. Whitten.

5th, Monday
MINNESOTA - Grant County - Elk Lake township - Telkamp farm - 4-6-week-old Holstein heifer - missing were 1 ear, part of an eye, the tail and rectum and one hock from each of three legs - sheriff says cuts were clean although he noted teeth marks in gristle where the ear and hocks were missing --- HERMAN (Minn.) REVIEW, 10-15-81; Bill Moore.

20th, Tuesday (approx.)
COLORADO - Huerfano County - Sheep Mountain area, near Gardner - Hubert Aguirre - classic bovine mutilation confirmed by veterinarian - near Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) drilling site --- David Perkins, Animal Mutilation Probe; Farisita, Colorado.

22nd, Thursday
CANADA - SASKATCHEWAN - Rabbit Lake - Nick Kowerchuk - 2½-year-old Charolais bull - missing penis and testicles - no tracks, snow falling and melting - rest of herd would not return to this, their fall pasture, after the incident - In a report filed by Mr. Kowerchuk, he states that: "The cut made around the penis was a hide cut only. There were no scratches or marks on the meat at all. A strip of hide was taken off the brisket. The testicles were taken out one at a time. There was no sign of struggle and no blood had dripped on or around the animal. The bull did have a rubber ear tag #908 on

OCTOBER 1981 (cont.)

it. It was taken out of the hole in the ear. The ear was not torn and the last I had seen him he had the tag. There was a dark coloring on the neck that could have been made by a rope or chain. Also a small scar that looked like a burn under the back leg. By the anus were small jabs into the hide. They were not deep enough to draw blood but were noticeable". - the carcass was found 10-23-81; checked by vet 10-24-81 and taken to Saskatoon that date for analysis at Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the Univ. of Saskatchewan. Dr. G. Wobeser's pathologic diagnosis found (1) Valvular endocarditis, (2) Septicemia, (3) Embolic pneumonia, (4) Embolic glomerulonephritis, and the presence was noted of the bacterium Pasteurella hemolytica. Wobeser commented that "This is a very unusual type of infection for this bacterium which is usually associated with shipping fever; however, there is histologic evidence of a generalized septicemia." --- Nick Kowerchuk; Denis C. Corneau.

31st, Saturday
COLORADO - Washington County - near Woodrow - Merrill ranch - 7-year-old, 1000-lb. female bovine - missing udder and genitals only - no evidence of blood or bleeding - cow had 3-week-old calf, which is alive and well - another cow, not mutilated, was found dead nearby - both animals died Halloween night (as Roy Neary would say: "Trick or Treat...") and were found 11-1-81 - other mutes south and west of here - rancher victimized again in mid-November (below) --- WRAY (Colorado) GAZETTE, 11-12-81; Mrs. Shirley Rickard via Linda M. Howe; Richard Merrill.

NOVEMBER 1981

(mid-November)
COLORADO - Washington County - near Woodrow - Merrill ranch - female bovine - as in the Halloween case, missing udder and genitals; also missing was part of the jaw-hide and part or most of the tongue - no evidence of blood or bleeding - found about 600 feet north of Halloween mute-site - at least a couple of other mutilations (unreported) occurred on ranches south and west of here around this time --- WRAY GAZETTE, 11-12-81; Mrs. Shirley Rickard via Linda M. Howe; Richard Merrill.

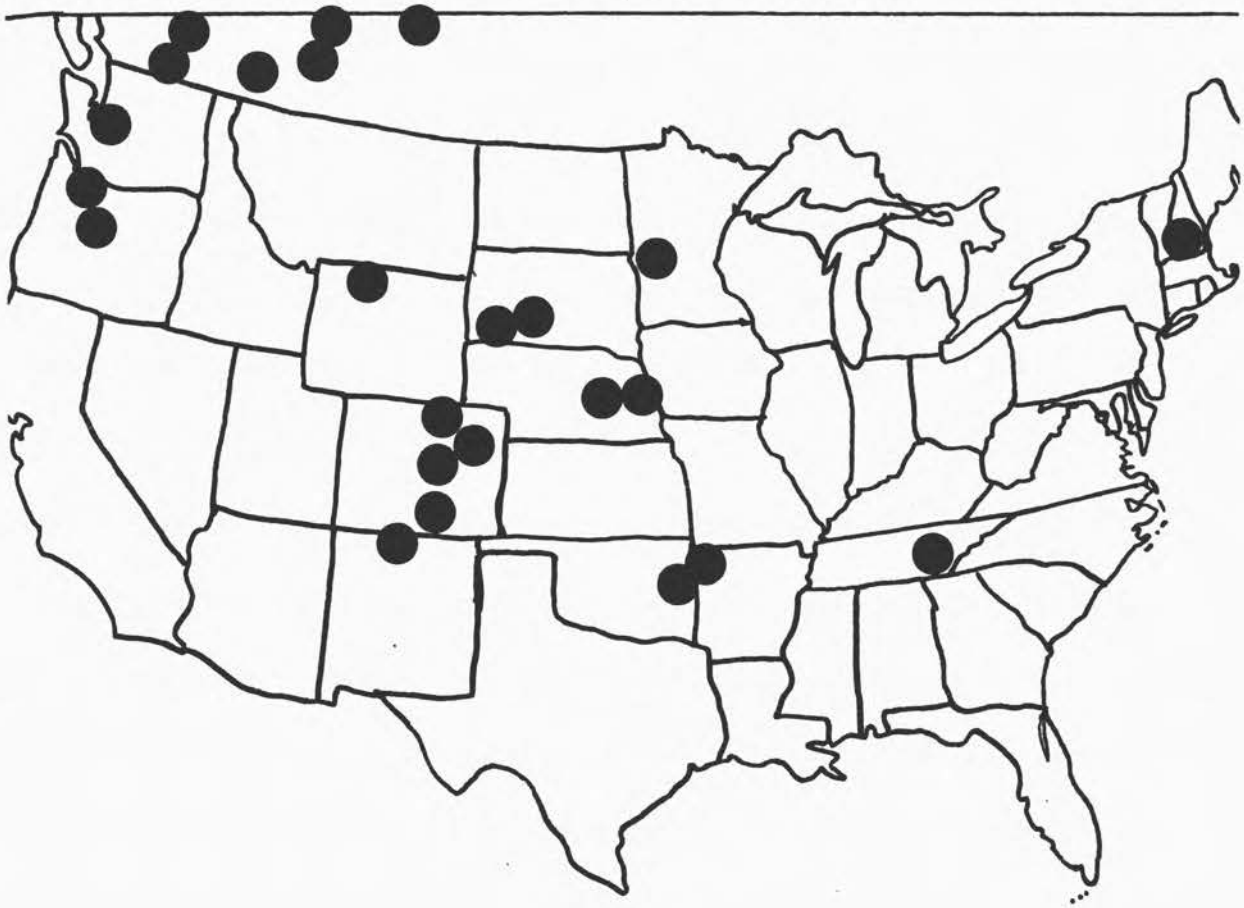
23rd, Monday
NEBRASKA - Colfax County - north of Richland, near Leigh - Glen Botsch - 1100-lb. female Hereford - missing were the rectum, the udder, the tip of the tail and the right ear - the animal had been cut open "from rectum to navel" - "very little blood" was in evidence at the site - on that previous night (Sunday night), a neighbor who lives just west of the mutilation site was awakened by a "fluctuating high-low sound" which lasted for about five minutes --- SCHUYLER (Nebraska) SUN, 12-3-81; OMAHA WORLD-HERALD, 11-27-81; T. Cook via UFO Newsclipping Service.

(November 1981 - continued next page)

NOVEMBER 1981 (cont.)

25th, Wednesday (approximate)
WYOMING - Big Horn County - east and south of Manderson, near Highway 31 - Harrington - 2 mutilations - (1) heifer, less than a year old; hide and flesh removed from right side of face, including nose; tongue cut off "just above throat"; right ear cut off close to skull; ear canal looked "cleaned out"; anus cut away; circle of hide removed from genital area; hint of singeing on hair around ear and anal cuts - (2) calf, 200 yards away; anus and genital wounds "identical" to those on other calf; head undamaged; a small amount of blood appeared to have dripped from the nose - both animals were found on Friday, November 27th; they were estimated to have died two to three days earlier --- Roger W. Harrington.

As has been the case with our previous annual summaries, the map below depicts the areas in which "classic" animal mutilations were reported in 1981:



A CLOSER LOOK - CANADA

ALBERTA

Before dealing with the 1981 Canadian mutilations, we'll take a look at a case from 1980: In STIGMATA #14 (page 11) we reported on the April 1980 mutilation of a three-year-old registered quarter horse owned by Marilyn Flaht of Oyen, Alberta. Another registered quarter horse owned by Mrs. Flaht, a filly, was found mutilated on a Sunday in July of 1980. Each horse was found in a separate pasture of Mrs. Flaht's - the first 20-30 km. northeast of Oyen (not 10 km. as we originally reported) and the second in a pasture near the grain elevator in the tiny community of Benton Station, east of Oyen. We can add to the account of the April mutilation the report that three people in three locations had seen a "weird light" on the night of the mutilation. Then, on the Tuesday before the second horse was found (on the following Sunday) the animal suffered a substantial cut on its side as Mrs. Flaht was trying to load her onto a truck or trailer. Fluid had been periodically draining from the wound toward the end of the week. When the horse was found on Sunday, it was noted that the most recent drainage from the stitches had been up, toward the horse's back as though during some point that night, the animal had been on its back. The carcass was found laying on its side, though, in weeds a foot high. But since no weeds were knocked over or bent around the carcass, it appeared as though the horse had been dropped there from above. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) were called in and a veterinarian did a field autopsy, with Mrs. Flaht present to observe the proceedings. The horse was missing half its udder and a strip of hide along the flank had been removed. Mrs. Flaht watched as the vet tried to duplicate the removal of the hide; but he was simply unable to do so. The rectal area had also been removed. On the ground below was a piece of intestine, "snowy white, as though it had been washed, and there was no manure", reported Mrs. Flaht. There was only about a syringe-full of blood in the heart. The blood was taken for analysis, but Mrs. Flaht was never informed of the findings.

1981

During a three-week period in May and June, four animals were found mutilated or dead under mysterious circumstances on four ranches near Vilna, Alberta, northeast of Edmonton. A calf that died on the Kucher farm had burns on its ears. Authorities suspected lightning, but the farmer's wife said there had been no lightning. Steve Popowich found a cow of his that was missing an ear, part of the tongue, the lips and rectum. Popowich reported that scavengers wouldn't touch the carcass and that the wounds appeared to have been made with a sharp instrument. He told Project Stigma: "I've seen dead animals. I've been around animals all my life. This isn't (due to) natural causes". Popowich had seen one of the other three animals and it looked much like his. Not that it was necessarily related to the mutes, but after a bright orange light was seen in a field near Smokey Lake, west of Vilna, mounds of cold ashes and a weird sulphur smell were left behind. The police said the ground was burned to a depth of 6-7 inches in a cigar-shaped area about 30 feet across (EDMONTON JOURNAL, 8-29-81).

14

BRITISH COLUMBIA - THE ARMSTRONG CASE

A purebred Hereford cow, a 3-year-old female, was found dead and mutilated on the TLR Ranch of Robert and Lillian Ternier near Armstrong, B.C. on July 3rd, 1981 (Armstrong is north of Vernon in south-central B.C.). Missing was the right upper lip and part of the nostril, all of the udder and its accompanying suspensory structure (one of the rear teats remained), and the external genitalia - all excised with a "sharp instrument". The tongue was still present and there was no rectal damage. Blood was still present in the animal, but there had been very little bleeding. This was "the strangest part of all" to veterinarian Dr. R.C. Maidment of the Vernon Veterinary Clinic, who autopsied the carcass on July 3rd, perhaps 6 or 7 hours after death - certainly no more than 12 hours. Dr. Maidment told Project Stigma: "I've done a few hundred autopsies in my time. I've been in practice for 23 years". He said he had never seen anything to compare to this. The cow had been seen alive and well late on the evening of July 2nd. It was found within 50 yards of a well-traveled road, within a half-mile of the Ternier's home and within 70-80 yards of the nearest inhabited house. From Dr. Maidment, we obtained a copy of the report of his examination and, with the permission of Mr. Ternier, we will reproduce it as follows:

> On July 3, 1981, approximately 10:00 AM, at the request of Robert and Lillian Ternier of Armstrong, B.C. and Sgt. Medly, Armstrong detachment, R.C.M.P., I conducted a post-mortem examination on one adult horned Hereford female, tattoo ARVS, 95K. right ear, branded D2 left shoulder.
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> The animal was lying in a grassy field, in lateral recumbency, left side down. There was no sign of a struggle or any movement by the animal in the immediate or surrounding area. The eyes were intact, very unusual considering the number of magpies and crows in this area. The upper right lip, including a portion of the right nostril, the right commisure and part of the lower right lip were missing. The udder, including the entire suspensory structure, had been removed up to the abdominal wall with the exception of one of the rear teats. The skin anterior to the udder had been separated from the sub-cutaneous tissue for approximately twelve inches and laterally into the flank area. The vulvar labia were missing, approximately one inch of tissue around the orifice having been removed. Other marks on the exterior included two or three small abrasions on the brisket skin. These were superficial and did not penetrate the skin. There was very little hemorrhage in the areas of missing tissue described above and there was no hemorrhage from the other body orifices. Rigor mortis was present but not complete. There was no bloat and the body was fresh and in good condition.
>
> The entire abdominal viscera were normal, nothing unusual being observed. The uterus was gravid, with a very early pregnancy. On opening the thoracic cavity, the lungs did not collapse. They were grossly emphysematous and had some foamy material in the minor airways. The trachea had pin-point hem-

orrhages on the anterior aspect from the larynx to the bifurcation. The heart was enlarged, completely full of clotted blood, as were all the great vessels. The region from the larynx ventral and posterior, including the trachea down to the brisket region, was extensively bruised with small peculiar gelatinous blood clots throughout. No skin punctures or foreign bodies were found despite a vigorous search. All other findings were normal. A telephone consultation with a staff member of the Provincial Veterinary Pathology Laboratory in Abbotsford, B.C. was unable to further the examination. As a result of my examination and observations, it is my considered professional opinion that the animal died very suddenly of un-natural causes. I have been unable to identify the causative agent or agents.

Several interesting observations should be made: (1) The apparent ease and rapidity of death suggested by undisturbed grass at the site. (2) The missing tissue, probably removed by a sharp instrument. (3) The almost professional dissection of the mammary apparatus. (4) The absence of any significant hemorrhage at the mutilation site. (5) The absence of predators, particularly magpies.

In conclusion we have: (A) The overnight sudden death of an apparently healthy animal. (B) The cause of death cannot be determined though strongly believed to be of un-natural causes. (C) The apparently skillful mutilation of the animal with various pieces of tissue missing. (D) All other animals in the herd normal and healthy.

In an interview with Project Stigma, property owner Robert Ternier revealed his suspicions about a car (maroon, maybe a Le Mans, 6 or 7 years old) and a pickup truck (old, all "smashed up") seen on the road by the property the evening before the cow died. That evening, while he was baling hay, Ternier noticed two filthy, scraggly people, a man and a woman, walking along the road by the farm. What puzzled him was that they just suddenly appeared, whereas he should have been able to see them approaching along the road from some distance away. Ternier thinks they may have been "in the brush, looking at the cattle". Commenting further about the mutilation and its impact on his herd, Ternier said:

I just started in this purebred Hereford business. I bought my cattle in the fall of 1980. The cow that was killed was a 3-year-old. She had just had her second calf. The calf is okay but it was a heifer calf and I will not be able to breed her for another year. I lost one year's production out of that heifer plus I lost the mother cow (and another calf, as the cow was in early pregnancy). That cow was a very well-bred animal. A half-brother to her sire sold for over $100,000 at the Calgary bull sale in 1979. My animals are healthy, good and sound. I bought 17 cows and I never had any problems with any

of them except with the one with lump jaw, an infection that can sometimes develop during teething. The one that I lost was one of the animals you never had to look at. She was not wild but she wasn't tame either. You couldn't walk right up to her and pet her. I had been around her for 8 months and I couldn't pet her at all. I could get to within maybe 10-15 feet of her before she'd move, but a stranger could never have walked up to her.

Mr. Ternier was asked whether he felt the animal had been killed and mutilated on the spot where it was found:

(Yes) The way the grass laid, you could see when they cut the udder out, the udder rolled down onto the grass and flattened the grass and there was a little blood on the grass. But beyond there there was nothing, so I would suspect that they put the udder in a plastic bag and packed it out of there. I've done a lot of butchering. We butcher and sell beef here off the farm. My personal opinion is that this animal was killed in the evening and then mutilated about 4 or 5 hours later. That's my opinion, because of the lack of blood, and the blood that was there was watery like it was just fluids draining out of the meat after the blood had congealed in the animal.

Responding to further questions about the mutilation itself, Mr. Ternier added:

I can honestly see where a lot of this could be natural death and predators, because a lot of people don't see their animals every day and they'll find one and they've heard that this has been going on and here are these parts gone and they'll say, "Hey, somebody killed my animal". But there is no possible way that that is what happened here. I've lived here for 32 years. I was born and raised here. We have never had a predator kill or a dog killing anything. I don't remember one animal being killed by a predator in our immediate area.

Mr. Ternier was asked about any animals that might have died of natural causes:

Animals bloat. They get sick. They get cancer. They die of old age. Just like people. Or they can eat poison weeds. I'll tell you what my experience is with dead animals. Unless the carcass is cut wide open, it takes about a week before predators, even birds, will come around and start picking on it - in hot or cold weather. I've had animals die on me, too, and bloat. I lost one about a month and a half ago. I've got a big rock pile. I brought the carcass up there to let the birds pick at it. It took the darn birds nearly 3 weeks to start working on that animal. If an animal is laying in the field, they're not just going to go up and start eating on it - it might just be asleep. It's got to be darn ripe before they'll get at it - either that or cut opened or butchered. If it's butchered, the birds, the coyotes and other

animals will come right away. But if its not butchered - if it's just a carcass laying there, it takes a long time for them to come around. It really does. They're wary. They won't just go and jump at something right away.

The following is an excerpt from the White Rock, B.C. publication, COUNTRY LIFE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. In the September 1981 edition, writer Lorne Leach summarized the Ternier case as follows:

COUNTRY LIFE interviewed several experts involved with this particular case and it became apparent that the two theories - death by mutilation or death by predators - will be argued for some time to come. Interviewed were Rob Ternier, Dr. Maidment, Keith Miller, secretary of the B.C. Hereford Association and one of the first on the scene, and Constable Mike Chorney of the RCMP Stock Section in Kamloops.

Chorney was the one individual who appeared to hold fast to the theory that predators were responsible, going so far as to say that he "doesn't believe in cattle mutilations". Chorney also pointed out that on the night of July 2, the Ternier's neighbors' dog was outside only a short distance from where the dead animal was discovered. The dog, which according to Chorney is rather excitable by nature, made no noise the night the cow died, something that would be expected if there were strangers nearby. On the other hand, there were reports of two strange vehicles being seen in the vicinity of the incident the evening before and again in the early hours of the morning the cow was discovered by Ternier. To add strength to his predator theory, Constable Chorney told Country Life that in the past two years with over 550 dead animals complaints received in Alberta, all with the exception of seven possible mutilations, had been eliminated as being caused by natural causes or predators.

The mysterious circumstances surrounding the manner by which the Ternier cow died led Dr. Maidment to advance with conviction the mutilation theory. He emphasized that in his opinion the removal of the tissue from the animal was performed with precise surgical skill and could not possibly have been the work of predators. Death by natural causes was virtually ruled out when Dr. Maidment reported that all the vital organs were perfectly normal. The mutilation theory was supported by Keith Miller who confirmed the "clean" surgery statement and added that there was not a drop of blood in evidence on the ground or on the animal.

This last statement, of course, is slightly at odds with Mr. Ternier, who said there was a very small amount of blood where it appeared the udder had fallen to the ground after being cut away from the animal.

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Although most of the Canadian mutilations over the past several years have been concentrated in Alberta, then Saskatchewan, British Columbia has not been totally left out (see STIGMATA #8). Indeed, in his article, Lorne Leach refers to "the strange and unusual deaths of a number of purebred cattle throughout British Columbia in recent months". In the Ternier case, after the police first arrived at the site, they went to a neighbor's house to phone the inspector. The neighbor overhead the conversation. The first thing the policeman said to the inspector was, "Well, we've got another one". The police also had what appeared to be a list of mutilation cases, and the Ternier case was about number 6 or 7 down the list. There have apparently been some reports from the U.S. border area of British Columbia, around Osoyoos and Rock Creek. After the Ternier case, an unpublicized mutilation occurred that following weekend near Barriere, north of Kamloops. We will continue to seek details regarding these cases. Fortunately we do have a good deal of information regarding another classic mutilation report from May of 1981 around the Fernie area of southeastern British Columbia. We'll report the details in STIGMATA 17.

Mutes As A Political Football

"Hidden Story Behind Mutilations" was the title for a column by editorial page editor David Roybal in the Santa Fe NEW MEXICAN of February 13, 1981 (credit: Tommy Roy Blann). The following is an excerpt from the column:

> It's been a while since retired FBI agent Kenneth Rommel completed his investigation into the baffling livestock mutilations that have bewildered New Mexicans since the mid-1970's.....Rommel's one-year investigation in some ways added to the bewilderment. The number of mutilations dropped sharply while Rommel sought to smoke out the perpetrators. And the frequency with which they have occurred has remained mysteriously low since the probe, financed through the 1st District Attorney's office, ended last May. Had it not been for Attorney General Jeff Bingaman's blast against U.S. Sen. Harrison Schmitt a few weeks, (sic) the perplexing mutilation story might have been forgotten by most persons. Bingaman cited Schmitt's involvement in pusing (sic) mutilation probes as an example of how the former astronaut has failed to represent New Mexico's legitimate concerns in Washington. So what if he's walked on the moon. So what if credible men once blamed the mutilations on space travelers. Schmitt's background doesn't make him an expert in livestock mutilations, Bingaman suggested. And even if it did, Schmitt should put his time and influence to better use, said the Atty. General. Bingaman, of course, felt a need to rap Schmitt. He wants Schmitt's job. And mutilations have caught a lot of attention in the past, so it must have seemed like a good subject for the attorney general to bring up while announcing his political plans.
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> In his prompt reply to Bingaman's criticism, Schmitt said mutilations have cost

state livestock owners thousands of dollars and that they deserve attention. District Attorney Eloy Martinez called the mutilations "crimes" when he applied for a grant from the Criminal Justice Department to finance Rommel's investigation. Several remarks made by Martinez just before the investigation started suggested he believed it was neither predator nor spaceman who was killing livestock in New Mexico and in other states around the nation.

The rest is recorded in a 297-page report Rommel submitted last June. Rommel said there was reason to believe the mutilations were "a law enforcement problem" when the Criminal Justice Department grant was obtained. And, he said, they appeared to pose a serious problem "both in terms of...economic impact on livestock owners and in the fear...generated among rural residents." But the one-year investigation, Rommel said, showed that the mutilations are not being done by highly skilled persons with considerable financial backing, as many persons had thought. There was little information to support claims that precision and skill were relied upon to remove (animal parts), he said. Mutilations which he saw, said Rommel, reflected sloppier work of predators and scavengers. Self-appointed investigators still scoff at Rommel's findings. Rommel's investigation lacked diligence and objectivity, not to mention a dearth of "classic mutilations", they claimed.

One of The New Mexican's readers wrote to us several months ago with his own explanation for the way livestock parts are cut and whisked away by thieves who no one has ever seen. It's the "stealth" secret that Jimmy Carter boasted about in the heat of his re-election campaign, he said. The same stuff that's poured, painted, splashed or mixed in with the surface of planes that Carter said can go undetected by Soviet radar hides the mutilators, their tracks, and all other evidence, said the letter writer. Why hasn't anyone realized it before? he asked. He reportedly signed the letter with invisible ink. There certainly wasn't a signature to be seen. We don t normally run letters on this page without signatures, but I thought the suggestion was interesting enough to check out. I carefully filed the letter in a folder that I marked "Stealth Mutilators" then began to retrace Rommel s tracks. I became stumped in my investigation Wednesday. Grasping for all available help, I went to retrieve the "stealth" letter from my files for another reading. The Manila folder was there but the letter was missing - at least I didn't see it. There were no prints. No clues. None to be seen, anyway.

Shortly after we went to press with our international summary in our last issue, the NATIONAL ENQUIRER (Dec. 29, 1981) published an article headlined: "UFOs Murder Four Men". It is claimed that 4 men, after being zapped by UFOs, as observed by witnesses, died, and that two of the bodies were white after having been drained of blood. The incidents are said to have occurred around the town of Parnarama in northeastern Brazil, in the autumn of 1981. One witness passed a PSE exam, says the ENQUIRER.

20

An article in the Santa Fe NEW MEXICAN in mid-1980 was headlined: "Historian says research reveals no history of cattle mutilations". We made a very slight reference to this in STIGMATA #12, but here are more details: "State historian Myra Ellen Jenkins said today her research has revealed no record of reported cattle mutilations in New Mexico prior to those reported in recent years.....Though (Kenneth) Rommel attributed the cattle deaths to natural causes and the mutilations to predators and decomposition. Dr. Jenkins said today she has found no record in historic documents or folklore of the type of selective mutilation reported in many of the cases. 'The only thing I've ever heard is that they just rip into them,' Dr. Jenkins said. 'There's no record of this type of selective mutilation'."

Most readers are familiar with laser surgery. In fact, it has been suggested that such techniques may have been employed in some mutilations. The August 1981 issue of the now-defunct NEXT magazine reported: "Electrosurgery - using radio frequencies instead of blades - is common practice when surgeons must cut and cauterize in delicate areas. A scientist at the University of Minnesota has linked a radio-frequency knife with a microcomputer to make a "smart" scalpel - one that "reads" tissue and adjusts the current as often as every 30,000th of a second, and "remembers" a surgeon's preferred frequencies and patterns. A prototype of the smart scalpel has performed well when used on dogs, and a second generation machine is being built for tests on humans, expected to begin in about a year..."

In STIGMATA #12, paranormal investigator Tommy Roy Blann reported that suspected mutilated tissue could be preserved in a 10% solution of formaldehyde. A laboratory analyst in Denver suggested to Linda Moulton Howe of KMGH-TV that, for those without access to formaldehyde, such samples can also be preserved in a solution of 3 parts isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol to one part water, being certain not to use too much alcohol.

For more information on Charles Tucker's expedition and investigation in Brazil (STIGMATA #15), see "The Brazilian Flap" by Joan T. Griffith in the Third Quarter 1981 issue of PURSUIT, the journal of The Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained (SITU). Membership in SITU includes four PURSUITs annually for a fee of $10.00 ($12.00 after 4-1-82); Write SITU/PURSUIT; P.O. Box 265; Little Silver, New Jersey 07739 USA.

Next issue: More 1981 reports, a mute motion picture update, and more on "Grudge 13".

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